

ACT/DEI/033



SCOTT M. MATHESON
Governor

OIL, GAS, AND MINING BOARD

GORDON E. HARMSTON
Executive Director,
NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(801) 533-5771

I. DANIEL STEWART
Chairman

CHARLES R. HENDERSON
JOHN L. BELL
THADIS W. BOX
C. RAY JUVELIN

CLEON B. FEIGHT
Director

April 5, 1978

Mr. Fred Gerdeman
Nuclear Assurance Corp.
101 South Third Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Dear Mr. Gerdeman:

The Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining adopted the "Changes and Additions to the General Rules and Regulations" at their executive meeting on March 22, 1978. There were some changes to the "Proposed Changes..." as a result of the comments we received.

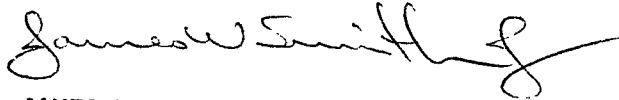
To answer your questions regarding Rule M-10 (12) (2) (a), any of the standard vegetation inventory methods used by land management agencies which will give accurate unbiased estimates of cover may be used. Your letter indicated that you are familiar with the various methods so I will not list them here. The wording of that Section of the Rules was intended to prevent the use of ocular estimates by persons inexperienced in estimating vegetative cover, since that is one of the criteria for determining revegetation success.

Regarding your question about test plots, each site is considered on an independent basis. The Division does not have any specific plot dimensions or number of replications needed. The size of the test plot would be determined by such factors as location (i.e., road, pad, waste dump, etc.) and size of the overall area to be revegetated, ease of working with equipment and convenience in calculating the amount of seed, fertilizer and mulch to be applied. The number of plots would be dependent upon the number of variables such as slope, aspect, and differences in soil characteristics of the areas to be revegetated. At least three representative soil samples should be obtained from each test area for laboratory analyses to determine the soil characteristics prior to establishing the plots. Naturally, it would be to your advantage to establish as many test plots as possible to take into account the many variables present and increase your chances of a successful revegetation effort.

Mr. Fred Gerdeman
Nuclear Assurance Corp.
Page Two

We are currently in the process of upgrading our Mining and Reclamation Plan form to take into account the new changes in the rules, a copy of which I have enclosed for your information. If we can be of further assistance in establishing your test plots please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James W. Smith".

JAMES W. SMITH
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

JWS/jy